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Applicants: Steve Qi et al.

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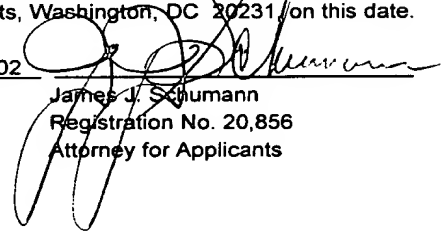
For: NOVEL SERINE PROTEASE
GENES RELATED TO DPPIV

Group Art
Unit: 1643

Examiner(s):

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on this date.

1/15/02

Date 
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE
WITH 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is being made prior to the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified patent application, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3), and thus, no fee is due for its submission.

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 C.F.R. 1.56 to inform the Patent Office of all references known by Applicants or Applicants' representative that may be material to the examination of the subject application, Applicants' representative hereby provides this Information Disclosure Statement that is prepared in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.98 and includes Form PTO-1449.

Applicants respectfully requests that the Examiner review the foregoing references and that they be made of record in the file history of the above-captioned application.

Although these documents are being made known to the Patent and Trademark Office in compliance with Applicants' duty of disclosure, such disclosure is not to be construed as

an admission by Applicants or Applicants' representative that any of the references is effective as prior art against the subject application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(a) exists.

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

By: 

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January 15, 2002

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